United Nations A/AC.182/2017/L.9

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
24 February 2017

Original: English

Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization
21 February-1 March 2017

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Isaías **Medina** (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela)

IV. *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* and *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*

1. During the general exchange of views held at the 284th and 285th meetings of the Special Committee, on 21 and 22 February 2017, delegations commended the continuing efforts of the Secretariat to update the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* and the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council* and to eliminate the backlog in their preparation. The significance of the two publications as sources of reference and effective means to maintain the institutional memory of the Organization, as well as their importance in the dissemination of the work of the Organization, were recalled. Several delegations emphasized the need to eliminate the backlog with regard to volume III of the *Repertory*. With regard to the *Repertoire*, it was also noted that the Secretary-General should continue to follow the modalities outlined in paragraphs 102 to 106 of his report of 18 September 1952 (A/2170), as reiterated in paragraph 14 of General Assembly resolution 71/146.

2. Delegations expressed appreciation to those Member States that had contributed to the two trust funds established for the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire*, which had facilitated the progress in eliminating the backlog with regard to those publications, and encouraged Member States to make additional contributions. The Secretariat was also urged to broaden the scope of its cooperation with academic institutions.

3. At its 2nd meeting, the Working Group of the Whole was informed by representatives of the Secretariat about the status of the preparation of the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire*.

4. Concerning the status of the *Repertory*, it was reported that studies on Article 49 for volume III of Supplements 7 to 9 (1985-1999) and Supplement 10 (2000-2009) had been drafted and were currently under review. A study on Article 33 (1) had been completed and would shortly be submitted to the lead department, the

Please recycle

Department of Political Affairs, for review. Work continued in the Office of the Legal Counsel on studies on Articles 104 and 105 for volume VI of Supplement 10 (2000-2009). The Department of Economic and Social Affairs was taking steps to prepare studies on volumes II and IV for Supplement 10 (2000-2009). With regard to Supplement 11 (2010-2015), the Codification Division was in the process of finalizing a study on Article 13 (1) (a) and the Office of Human Resources Management, in consultation with the Office of Administration of Justice, was completing a study on Article 101. On the website of the *Repertory*, 43 completed volumes, together with advance versions of studies under review, could be searched through the website's full-text search function.

5. The Secretariat maintained its long-standing relationship with the University of Ottawa and was also assisted by the work of interns in preparing studies for the *Repertory*. The Secretariat reiterated its appeal, previously made in the Sixth Committee, that delegations convey expressions of interest by academic institutions for possible cooperation on the *Repertory*. To date, the appeal had resulted in contact with two academic institutions in the Asia-Pacific region. The Secretariat had also asked States to consider sponsoring associate experts to work on the *Repertory* and had been contacted by one Member State as a result.

6. Since the establishment of the trust fund in 2005, more than $156,000 had been donated.[1] After the use of part of the funds for the preparation of *Repertory* studies, approximately $45,000 remained available in the trust fund.

7. With regard to the *Repertoire*, it was reported that the Security Council Practices and Charter Research Branch of the Security Council Affairs Division had completed Supplement 18, covering the years 2012 and 2013, which was in the process of being published. The Branch had also made significant progress in the drafting of Supplement 19, covering the period from 2014 to 2015. Advance versions of parts I, V and X were available on the website of the *Repertoire*; the remaining parts would be made available on the website in the second half of 2017. To improve the progress of its work, the Branch continued to develop efficiency-enhancing initiatives and closely collaborated with other departments. In October 2016, the Branch had concluded a lessons-learned study aimed at improving the publication and its website.

8. Work was also continuing on translating the *Repertoire* into all the official languages and publishing the completed Supplements. Supplements 12 to 14, covering the period from 1993 to 2003, had thus been made available online in all official languages, while translated versions of Supplements 15 and 16, covering the period from 2004 to 2011, would be added in the second half of 2017. The English version of Supplement 17 had been made available in print and, together with Supplement 18, had been scheduled to be translated by the end of 2017.

9. It was also emphasized that the search engine of the website of the *Repertoire* had been updated to include advanced search features and that it contained, inter alia, statistical data on the practice of the Council, highlights of Council practice for 2015 and 2016, tables and graphs showing components of the mandates of current peacekeeping and political missions, and relevant provisions of decisions of the Council in relation to cross-cutting agenda items. Since October 2016, the website had also included a variety of graphs featuring information on decisions and measures related to the existing sanctions regime and other restrictions authorized pursuant to Article 41 of the Charter. The website's search function had been further updated to make it more user-friendly, reliable, accurate and effective.

[1] Donations were made by Albania, Chile, Finland, Greece, Guinea, Ireland, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

10. The Branch had responded to numerous requests for information relating to the current and past practice of the Council and its subsidiary organs. It was emphasized that the preparation and publication of the *Repertoire* continued to rely on voluntary contributions to the trust fund and the sponsorship of associate experts.[2]

11. Following the reports by representatives of the Secretariat, it was noted that the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire* should be made available as paper publications and in all official languages of the United Nations.

[2] Donations were made, or associate experts were sponsored, by Albania, Angola, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, China, Croatia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Libya, Luxembourg, Mexico, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Congo, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.